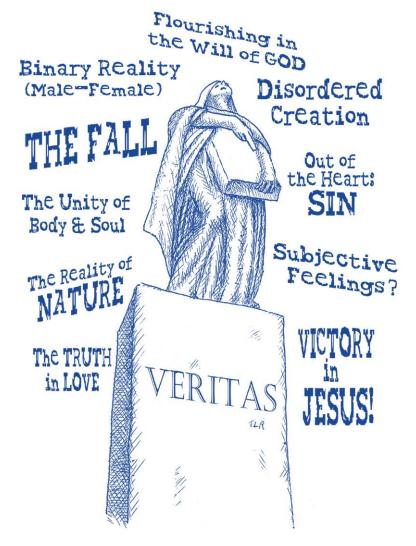


Part II



Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, PA October 29th, 2023

The LORD'S Day

The Twenty-ninth Day of October, in the Year of our Lord 2023

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!



Sunday School—9:30 AM.



"Original sin is in us, like the beard. We are shaved today and look clean, and have a smooth chin; tomorrow our beard has grown again, nor does it cease growing while we remain on earth. In like manner original sin cannot be extirpated from us, it springs up in us as long as we live. Nevertheless we are bound to resist it to our utmost strength, and to cut

it down unceasingly." - Martin Luther

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:* "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (#299; v. I).

Invocation.*

Hymn: "At the Cross" (#153).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Psalm II9:41-48.

Prayer, Praises, and Testimony.

Hymn: "I Must Tell Jesus" (#101).

Announcements.

Hymn: "What a Friend we have in Jesus" (#100).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: "9 RESPONSES TO THE TRANS-CULTURE (PT. II)."

Closing Hymn:* "In Times Like These" (#328).

Benediction.*





Pastor: Terry L. Reese

Pastor's Blog: https://reesepastor.blogspot.com Phone: (814) 254-6734; Church: (814) 446-6685 Mailing Address: PO Box 178; Armagh, PA 15920

facebook: @valleygbcarmagh

Audio messages at INTERNET ARCHIVE: archive.org (@reesetpje)
Also check out our YouTube Channel (search "Terry Reese")!
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZPAQluabZiWE8eVNquACAQ
See our rumble channel (TerryReese) https://rumble.com/c/c-3127604

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study: 6:30 PM.



Week of Oct. 22 - Oct. 26

Sunday School—6; Morning Worship—15; Midweek—4; Weekly Offering—\$545.00

9 RESPONSES TO POSTMODERN TRANS-IDEOLOGY BY PASTOR TERRY REESE, VALLEY GBC; 10/27/23

- 1. The Bible presents a BINARY REALITY—Male & Female (Gen. 1:27, 2:18-25; Matt. 19:4-5)—that was pronounced "VERY GOOD" (Gen. 1:31). As Jesus emphasized, this is God's original, perfect design for humanity (Matt. 19:4-5): one man & one woman, with differing complimentary roles (Eph. 5:22-33), joined for life (Matt. 19:6), resulting in biological procreation (Gen. 1:28, 9:1).
- 2. "Gender-identity-disorder" exists; suffering people DO have these strange feelings! These subjective feelings are really experienced—but they do NOT point to a final, objective reality (i.e., the idea that the "true self" is trapped in the "wrong body"). We can have deranged "feelings" that are not in correspondence with reality (cf., the derangement of Nebuchadnezzar in Dan. 4).
- 3. The <u>Biblical framework of the Fall</u> and its effects explains this derangement! The Fall has produced *many* consequences and ill-effects—invading the psychological, emotional, physical, environmental, social, and spiritual realms. We come into this world as broken, spiritually-dead, fallen creatures (Ps. 51:5, Eph. 2:1-3, 1 Cor. 2:14, Rom. 8:7)—hence, our *"internal wiring is off!"*
- 4. Regardless of the direct cause(s) or source(s) of Gender Disorder, such confusion is displeasing to God. It is <u>ALWAYS SIN</u>—i.e., *missing the mark* of Divine perfection. It is NEVER to be accepted as *normative*, embraced as an *identity*, or *normalized*—let alone *justified* (Isa. 5:20)! (CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

That which *naturally proceeds* from a fallen heart—born in a state of depravity (Gen.5:3)—is designated as *evil* by Jesus (Matt.15:19)!

- 5. The physical body is NOT simply a "disposable container" into which the "real you" (i.e., the soul/spirit) is poured. We have been created as a *unity* of body & spirit. A pagan radical dualism (Acts 17:32, 26:24) that rejects the eternal holistic unity of body & soul that is found in the Bible must itself be rejected. The body is part of the "real person" that will one day be resurrected!
- **6.** The <u>reality of nature</u> must be affirmed & accepted: a person <u>CANNOT</u> change their sex! Gender is NOT a subjective, manmade, fabricated "social construct." It is based upon an *objective biological reality* (i.e., having 2 X chromosomes vs. having an X & a Y chromosome). Hormone therapy, surgery, and cosmetics CANNOT change this reality. We can't even authentically change our hair or skin color (Matt. 5:36, Jer. 13:23)—let alone our SEX! Even those men who are <u>eunuchs</u> (Matt. 19:12)—whether through birth defects or through surgical castration—are still MEN! Thus, gender involves something <u>more</u> than either fertility or surgery!
- 7. We cannot thrive or <u>FLOURISH</u>—i.e., live in a "large" way (Ps. 119:45)—outside of the Scripturally-revealed will of God! Just as alcoholics cannot flourish by feeding their destructive sin habits and impulses, persons suffering with gender identity disorders cannot flourish or find peace by feeding their sin natures and denying their authentic, Divinely-created gender identities.
- 8. We are called as Christians to exhibit BOTH conviction and compassion. We are not loving either God or our neighbors (Matt. 22:37-40) when we LIE to people and encourage them to follow sinful paths (Matt. 18:6-7). We MUST speak the plain TRUTH in LOVE (Eph. 4:15). Above all, we must speak the TRUTH!—and yet be mindful that graciousness is the climate in which Truth flourishes! Parents, in particular, are called to rise above the prevailing culture and love their children in a holy and Biblical manner—and NOT support them in their sinful delusions.
- **9.** There is the promise of victory and ultimate deliverance for the LGBTQ person who turns in repentance to Christ. Despite a global "progressive" movement that opposes counselling LGBTQ folks to cast-off their wicked and sinful lifestyles, the Word of God offers them the *genuine* hope and *certain* prospect of salvation and deliverance *if* they turn in faith to JESUS (1 Cor. 6-11)!